APPROVED AS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL 05/20/25

MEETING MINUTES
May 6, 2025

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama, 36867. Upon roll call, the following members of Council were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Green, Councilmember Steve Bailey, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Councilmember R. Griff Gordy was not present. Also present were City Manager Wallace Hunter, Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Shannon Davis.

Upon a quorum being established, Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Green delivered the invocation.

Councilmember Green led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

City Manager Wallace Hunter and Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain presented employee service recognitions to Anthony Campbell – 5 years.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the April 14, 2025 Work Session Meeting and April 15, 2025 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Day moved to approve the minutes, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to rescinding Resolution No. 2024-229 in reference to awarding a bid for demolition of structure located at 1004 North Railroad Street.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-78

Councilmember Green moved to approve the resolution which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference awarding a bid to All Seasons Lawn Care for the demolition of a structure located at 1004 North Railroad Street in an amount not to exceed $18,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-79

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement for services with B&B Beverage Management allowing

them to obtain a 140-Special Retail License at the Phenix City Lively District for an event held on May 30, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-80

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to accepting the dedication of public utilities and easements dedicated by the Final Plat of "Railroad Place Professional Park", R & R, LLC, owner.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-81

Councilmember Bailey moved to approve the resolution which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to accept a proposal from Proshot Concrete, Inc., to perform work on a portion of the Riverwalk north of the 13th Street Bridge in an amount not to exceed $46,300.00 (forty six thousand three hundred dollars).

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-82

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to granting permission to Westminster Home Owners' Association to construct a school bus stop shelter within the right of way of Westminster Drive and Auburn Road.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-83

Councilmember Green moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the purchase of one (1) John Deere Utility Tractor with Sidearm Mower from SunSouth, LLC, of Columbus, Georgia, in an amount not to exceed $132,568.77.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-84

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the purchase of one (1) Kubota Mini Excavator from Beshears Tractor and Equipment in Opelika, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed $50,478.30.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-85

Councilmember Green moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring vehicles listed on “Exhibit A” as surplus to be sold to the highest bidder at a public auction or sold as scrap if no one purchases them.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-86

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to accepting a proposal from The Fence Doctor for the purchase and installation of a gate and automated entry equipment for the Water Filtration Plant and the Waste Water Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed $26,721.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-87

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to hire Warr Grading Contractor, Inc., to repair a portion of the force sewer main on Downing Drive in an amount not to exceed $20,464.40.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-88

Councilmember Green moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to hire Warr Grading Contractor, Inc., to repair a section of the sanitary sewer main on Jackson Drive in an amount not to exceed $4,266.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-89

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to hire Warr Grading Contractor, Inc., to repair a portion of the storm drainage system on 280 Bypass at Sunoco Emergency Storm Box in an amount not to exceed $24,804.57.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-90

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to hire Southern Rewinding and Sales to replace the waste water pump at the Water Filtration Plant in an amount not to exceed $8,525.54.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-91

Councilmember Bailey moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a Letter of Recommendation from the Planning Commission, Public Notice and Ordinance to rezone 10.29+/- acres of land located at 1007 25th Avenue from a C-4 Zone (Highway Commercial District) to an R-3 Zone (High Density Residential District), Neil Koon, owner.

LETTER

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE

Councilmember Day moved to accept the letter, approve the public notice, and place the ordinance on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a Letter of Recommendation from the Planning Commission, Public Notice and Ordinance to rezone 3.20+/- acres of land located at 1003 25th Avenue from a C-4 Zone (Highway Commercial District) to an R-3 Zone (High Density Residential District), Snead Alabama, LLC and Snead Properties, LLLP, owners.

LETTER

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE

Councilmember Day moved to accept the letter, approve the public notice, and place the ordinance on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented for second reading an Application for an On-Premise Beer License, On-Premise Wine License and Whisky/Wine License submitted by Outback Steakhouse of Florida LLC dba Outback Steakhouse 1275 located at 3531 US Highway 280/431, Phenix City, Alabama Councilmember Day moved to place the application on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented for first reading an Application for an On-Premise Beer License and Off-Premise Beer License submitted by Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC dba Chipotle Mexican Grill located at 3535 US Highway 280, Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Day moved to approve the application, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Green. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a Notice of Claim against the City of Phenix City, filed by ALFA Insurance on behalf of Ruth Corbitt which alleges that on November 27, 2023, a City owned vehicle backed into Ms. Corbitt's vehicle and caused damage. Mr. Graham stated that the claim was orgininally tabled on April 15, 2025 in order to determine that the esmitates were the appropriate amounts. Mr. Graham also stated that he met with a local builder to discuss the prices of similar repairs. Mr. Graham's recommendation was to pay in the lowest amount of $9,705.97. Councilmember Bailey moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to pay the claim in the amount of $9,705.97 which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day, which upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Green, Bailey, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion passed.

Councilmember Day inquired about the current status of the Gas Tax Litigation with Russell County. Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble addressed Council. Mr. Gamble stated that they will be meeting with Russell County to determine what the final amount owed to the City of Phenix City by Russell County which will include principal and interest. Mr. Gamble also stated that they will disucss whether the $450,000.00 in patriot funds will be paid to Russell County. Mr. Gamble further stated that if they can not come to an agreement with Russell County, then there will be a hearing in Russell County Circuit Court to determine what the amount will be for the principal and interest payment. Councilmember Bailey inquired if Russell County will pay up until October of 2025. Mr. Gamble stated that those were the back payments that they will still receive.

Mr. Gamble also stated that Russell County has requested to offsite the amount of prinicipal and interest by the $450,000.00. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that when the City of Phenix City commits to doing something, they will follow-through and stand by their word. Mr. Hunter also stated that people can be confused when it comes to how taxes are structured and what the difference is between Sales Tax, Property Tax and Utilities Tax which is a different franchise of it's own. Mr. Hunter reviewed the history of why the Gas Tax were setup to go to the City due to the fact that the majority of the gas stations are located in City limits and the actions that were taken recently by Representive Blackshear to get in between the City and the County by introducing the bill to repeal Act No. 859 of the 1969 Regular Session to all the state gasoline excise tax to the incorporated municipalities in the county. Mr. Hunter stated that he and the Mayor communicated to Representative Blackshear that this was not the right thing to do. Mr. Hunter also stated that the Phenix City Russell County Library is ran by the City of Phenix City with an operation budget of $600,000.00 and out of that amount Russell County has only paid $11,0000.00 and that they need to pay their full amount in order to continue to have Russell County in the name of the library as it is suppose to be funded by both the City and the County. Mr. Hunter further stated the the Phenix City Russell County Animal Shelter is managed the same way that the Library is and that is jointly however, the City is paying the bill. Mr. Hunter stated that the property tax in Phenix City is lower than the national average and that the City brings in the majority of their revenue through Sale Taxes and that is why the City is successful in bringing in new businesses. Mr. Hunter also stated that it is expensive to run and manage the City. Mayor Lowe stated that the City of Phenix City through Mr. Hunter has built a strong relationship with the State of Alabama and with the City Government in Columbus, Georgia and that the City is doing things the right way with integrity and character. Mayor Lowe also stated that everything has changed and that it is hard to find people that are willing to work and that the Utilities workers are working hard and diligently to fix all of the leaks. Mayor Lowe futher stated that the lack of workforce is something that affecting Cities all over the nation and therefore, things have to be priortized. Mayor Lowe stated that the City is working as hard as they can and that they are not overlooking anyone.

Councilmember Day stated that Mr. Hunter and his team are dedicated and that they are doing things to benefit the Citizens of Phenix City. Councilmember Day also stated that Mr. Hunter and his team also make the Council look good. Councilmember Day further stated that when he receives calls from the Citizens about certain things, he ask if they had contacted their State Represetivite or their County Commissioner because they have more than just one person representing them.

Councilmember Green stated that they know that they have a lot going on in the nation and that they need to continue to be mindful and focused on continuing to do things in the right way because they are not just going through life but growing through life. Councilmember Green also stated that it will be a positive reflection on the City and the Council as they represent the people of Phenix City. Councilmember Green further stated that the City will continue to grow and be the best to work, play, worship and attend school for the Citizens and that they are all in it together. Councilmember Green stated in May two important things are celebrated, Mothers Day and Memorial Day. Councilmember Green wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day. Councilmember Green encouraged the Citizens to visit the Phenix City website to see all of the activities that the City has scheduled for the them. Councilmember Green stated that she attended the Mother Daughter Brunch held by Phenix City Parks and Recreation and stated that it was a nice event music and fellowship. Councilmember Green also stated that there are many other events that the City has scheduled for the Citizens and that entertainment and tourism is happening in Phenix City. Councilmember Green thanked Phenix City Parks and Recreation for providing all of the activities and events. Councilmember Green encouraged the Citizens to visit

the Phenix City website to review the calendar of events to include the Phenix City Library, which the Director of the Library Tammy Henry has scheduled many exciting upcoming summer programs for the children. Councilmember Green stated that it is the season of graduations and it is the new beginnings for so many youth that will be going into college and graduating from one level of school to another and it is an exciting time. Councilmember Green stated that they want to pray for and celebrate all of them. Councilmember Green congratulated the parents, administrators and teachers because everyone has a part in the successful education of their children and that an educated community is a safer community.

Councilmember Day stated that he wanted to take the time to invite all of the Citizens of Phenix City, in all three districts to come to the City Council Meetings to stay informed and educated on what is happening in their City with their tax dollars. Councilmember Day encouraged all the Citizens to avoid throwing trash out and keep a cleaner City.

Mayor Lowe thanked the entire team and stated that the Council appreciates all of their work and dedication and that the Council will continue to do their best for the Citizens. Mayor Lowe encouraged everyone to stay upright and faithful and realize that there are those that are depending on them. Mayor Lowe stated that the Council will continue to do the right thing and if a mistake is made, they will admit it, learn from it and try not to make the mistake again. Mayor Lowe also stated that at the end of the day it is about other people.

Mayor Lowe thanked CCTV Beam for bringing the meeting to the Citizens of Phenix City.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until May 20, 2025.